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Letter dated 12 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement on the situation in Peru issued on 9 June 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 116 (b).

(*Signed*) António **Monteiro**
Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 12 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the situation in Peru issued on 9 June 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union has taken note of the results of the elections in Peru. It reiterates its deep concern over the number of irregularities and anomalies reported during those elections that reduce the democratic legitimacy they would otherwise have provided.

Once again the European Union would like to put its weight behind all democratic forces active in Peru that strive for a reinforcement of institutions to safeguard the people's right of political freedom and participation and the rule of law. The European Union welcomes the decision of the Organization of American States to send another mission to Peru at the invitation of the Peruvian authorities to explore options and recommendations aimed at further strengthening democracy. The European Union attaches strong importance to the success of the OAS mission and will be observing its results with interest.

Against this background, the European Union calls upon all political forces, and especially the Government, to work for consensus, through dialogue, in order to find sufficient ground for compromise to strengthen democracy in Peru, allowing the opposition to fully participate in the political debate.

The European Union will continue to closely follow the situation in Peru and its development. In this light, the European Union will examine its relations with that country.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.